SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: I have already said it. Punjab is a very important place for us because so much of foodgrains more from the north to the south. We cannot afford to neglect it. We will do whatever is required and if culverts are required, we will look into it.

श्री मोहिन्दर सिंह कल्याण : चेयरमेन जी, मैं आपके जरिए रेलवे मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि बारिश की वजह से जो पंजाब में रेलवे लाइन को नुकसान पहुंचा है और जो रेलवे ब्रिज टूटे हैं, उनको कब तक बनाया जाएगा, कितनी देर में बनाया जाएगा ? और, यह कितना नुकसान पंजाब का हुआ है ?

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: I have already answered it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

श्री मोहिन्दर सिंह कल्याण : सर, मैंने यह पूछा है कि पंजाब में कितना नुकसान हुआ है, ब्रिज कितने डेमेज हुए हैं ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister has already given the reply. I have now moved to the other question.

*45. [*The Questioners* (*Dr. Jinendra Kumar Jain and Shri P. Upendra*) were *absent. For answer,* vide *col.....*infra.]

*46. [*The Questioner* (*Chowdhry Hari Singh*) *was absent. For answer,* vide *col.....*infra.]

Untrained Drivers in Red Line Buses

@*47. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of total accidents inflicted by Red Line Buses in Delhi since their introduction to this day;

(b) what action has been taken against the drivers and owners of these buses and what are the results of action taken;

(c) whether it is a fact that Red Line Bus drivers are hired on daily basis, if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is also a factt hat these drivers often lack experience in driving;

(e) what is the number of buses and routes on which these buses ply; and

(f) what are the names of the owners of these buses or the persons authorised to ply their private buses on roads of the capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Red Line buses were involved in 291 accidents from October, 1992 to 30th June, 1993. In all 78 persons were killed.

(b) Till 30-6-93, 23 permits were cancelled and 29 permits were suspended. Besides, 24 drivers' licences were cancelled and 24 drivers' licences suspended.

(c) Some allegation to this effect have been made and we are enquiring into them.

(d) Only persons having Heavy Motor Vehicles driving licence and a Public Service Vehicle Badge are allowed to drive a transport vehicle. A learner's licence for driving heavy motor vehicle is issued only if one has held a driving licence for atleast two years to drive a light motor vehicle or for atleast one year to drive a medium passenger vehicles. State Transport Authority has started a thorough check of the driving licences of Red Line Bus drivers to ensure that both these conditions are compiled with.

@ *Question* No. 47 and 49 were clubbed together.

✠ The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Mira Das.

(e) and (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Action Against Red Line Bus Service

@*49. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the year when the Red Line buses started plying on the roads of Delhi;

(b) what is the number of accidents involving these buses and the number of persons killed as a result thereof; and

(c) whether Government have paid adequate compensation to the families of those who have been killed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 1992.

(b) (1) Total number of accidents upto 30-6-1993 were 291.

(2) Persons killed 78.

(c) Under the Motor Vehilcs Act, 1988, the compensation is payable by the insurance company or and owner after an award by the Motor Accidents Claims Tribunal. A compensation amounting to Rs. 25000/- in case of death and Rs. 12000 in the case of permanent disablement on the basis of no falt liability, is payable expeditiously through the Tribunal by the owner/insurer.

SHRIMATI MIRA DAS: No doubt, the Minister is very intelligent. That is why he very cunningly avoided the most important part of my question, that is, part (f), where I wanted to know the names of the bus-owners. Sir, to my knowledge, these bus-owners are very powerful persons here—I mean those who are running the Red line buses. I think their names are not there in the Transport office because they are very powerful persons and they did not think it necessary to get any licences and their names are not registered in the list in the Transport offices. Why is the Minister taking so much time to give the names? I think ten days' time is not insfficient for the Minister to give this reply. What is the matter? Why is he not able to give the names?

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Sir, Question No. 49 is also on the Red Line buses. It is the same question and I suggest that we can club these two questions together.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: It is also about accidents. The thrust is same.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not know how it happened. Anyway, we can club them together.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: The hon. Member wants to know the names of the owners of the red line buses. Actually, it is not red line. The name appears to have been concocted by the media. It is red bus. The lines indicate the different zones.

SHRIMATI MIRA DAS: It is mentioned there: 'red line buses, green line buses'.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: That makes no difference. But your question is an important one. The names of the owners are there with the Delhi Administration. Probably, they were not able to supply the names because this comes under the Delhi Administration. We have requested them to give the names. They said that it will take some time. But I can assure you that the list of names will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as I get them.

SHRIMATI MIRA DAS: Sir, it is all right the Minister will give the names, but the basic point is that these red line buses are creating havoc on the Delhi roads and playing with the lives of the people. That is why I specifically wanted